



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Brent Kevin Larson )

For: ELASTOMER COMPOSITION )

WHICH CONTAINS INTERCALATED AND )

EXFOLIATED CLAY REINFORCEMENT )

FORMED IN SITU WITHIN THE )

ELASTOMER HOST AND ARTICLE, SUCH )

AS A TIRE, HAVING AT LEAST ONE )

COMPONENT THEREOF )

Serial No.: 09/897,315 )

Filed: July 2, 2001 )

Confirmation No.: 1737

Docket No.: DN2001138

Art Unit: 1714

Examiner: Katarzyna Wyrozebski Lee

I hereby certify that this correspondence is  
being deposited with the United States Postal  
Service as first class mail in an envelope  
addressed to: Mail Stop Non-fee Amendment,  
Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 17/4  
day of June, 2003.

Stacy J. Sidle

Stacy J. Sidle

Main Stop Non-fee Amendment

Commissioner of Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Official Action dated March 19, 2003, Paper No. 4, please make the following amendments in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the Applicants' invention.